Promotion from one grade to another depends on the eligibility conditions, sanctioned strength and the number of vacancies, which vary from cadre to cadre.

(b) Some employees are given additional increment on completion of 8 years service in a grade. Further, employees are entitled to stagnation increments on completion of every two years of service at the maximum of scale of pay.

(c) The matter is still sub-judice

[*Translation*]

Complaints from Central Government Employees in Rajasthan

4760. PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of complaints received by the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions from the Central Government employees in Rajasthan during last three years;

(b) the number of complaints disposed of; and

(c) the steps taken for disposal of the remaining complaints expeditiously?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) to (c). There is now system of tabulation in territorial terms of Central Government employees' grievances. Government employees' grievances arise from a whole range of issues such as promotion, increment of pay, placement, disciplinary proceedings, work environment and so on. These are attended to by designated authorities in various ministries, departments and organisations concerned.

[*English*]

Expansion of Agro-based Industries

4761. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a great scope for the expansion of the Agro-based industries in the country;

(b) if so, the steps taken thereon;

(c) whether bank loan is not available adequately in time for the Agro-based units; and

(d) if so, the steps taken to make available loans to the persons who have set up the Agro-based units?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): (a) and (B). Yes, Sir. There is scope for the expansion of agro-based industries in the country. The Government is giving a number of facilities like infrastructural support, concessional finance, excise relief, exclusive reservation of items for development of small scale industries including agro-based industries.

(c) and (d). RBI from time to time issue guidelines to banks for smooth flow of working capital for SSI units. All SSI Units including Agro-based Units in Small Scale Sector are free to avail of the facilities as per the guidelines issued by the RBI.

Rajasthan Atomic Power Station

4762. SHRI AMAL DATTA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the reports of deformities in children and dwindling of livestock in the area around the Rajasthan Atomic Power Station;

(b) whether the Government are also aware of the reports of an increase in occurrence of death due to cancer in the area around Rajasthan Atomic Power Station;

(c) whether any checks have been made in this regard; and

(d) if so, the results thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) and (b). The Government are aware of reports in a section of the press regarding alleged deformities in children and dwindling of livestock and increased occurrence of cancer in the area around Rajasthan Atomic Power Station.

(c) In the light of alarming reports in the press and British television coverage on the health conditions in some villages around Rajasthan Atomic Power Station, the Rajasthan Government appointed an expert team of Medical Officers to investigate and report the factual information. Officials from the Department of Atomic Energy accompanied the expert team during the site studies

(d) The survey clearly revealed that the health deficiencies observed were not attributable to radiation and there is no incidence of radiation induced diseases in the adjoining villages.

Sanction of Grants by KVIC

4763. SHRI RAM NAIK: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the amount sanctioned by the Khadi and Village Industries Commission during the year 1990-91, industry-wise, and State-wise and particularly for areas within the jurisdiction of KVIC Regional Office, Meerut,

(b) whether relaxation of any normal procedure or any normal condition was granted while sanctioning or releasing amounts to the beneficiaries covered under *(a) above; and*

(c) if so, the relaxation granted at each stage and the authority which granted such relaxation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI P.K THUNGON): (a) The amount of grant and loan disbursed by the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) for implementation of Khadi and Village Industries Programme in the country during 1990-91, industry-wise is given in the attached statement The State-wise disbursement is under compilation. The KVIC for implementation of its Khadi and Village Industries Programme in areas within the Jurisdiction of Regional office, Meerut had originally sanctioned an amount of Rs 8 39 crores for Village industries and Rs. 5 62 crores for Khadi for 1990-91 to the directly aided institutions. However, actual number of units sanctioned and set up were 238 under Village Industries for which an amount of Rs. 3.03 crores was released As regards Khadi, only Rs. 0.94 crores were released as loan. An amount of Rs. 6.57 crores as grant was released mainly to meet the Khadi sales rebate of Rs. 5 64 crores and interest subsidy on Bank finance of Rupees 0.93 crores.

(b) and (c). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.